

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently Amended) A method for transmitting digital AV(Audio/Video) contents and an on-screen display (OSD), said method including comprising:

~~judging whether a transmission of an OSD is needed or not;~~

determining whether a contents request signal is generated;

determining whether information requested by the contents request signal is an OSD if the contents request signal is generated;

if so, checking a volume of the OSD; and

determining whether the volume of the OSD is larger than a certain volume, and if so transmitting the OSD in analog form to a switching unit through an analog connection, and if the volume of the OSD is not larger than the certain volume, transmitting the OSD in digital form to the switching unit through a digital connection.

3. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein the digital AV contents are transmitted through the digital connection while the OSD is transmitted through the analog connection or digital connection.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 2, further comprising:
transmitting an indication signal to indicate whether the OSD is being transmitted through the analog connection.
6. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 5, further comprising:
receiving the digital AV contents, the OSD and the indication signal at a signal input apparatus; and
processing the indication signal at the signal input apparatus to switch between a first input terminal for selecting the OSD in the digital analog form and a second input terminal for selecting the OSD in the digital form.
7. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 2, wherein said step of judging whether a transmission of determining whether the information is an OSD is needed or not, includes sensing a user's input requesting a setting status or command to change a control parameter.
8. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 7, wherein the user's input is received via a remote control.
9. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:
a signal output apparatus including:

an audio/video(AV) data source for transmitting digital AV contents;
an on screen display(OSD) generating unit for generating an OSD;
a first controlling unit for controlling operation conditions of said AV data source and said OSD generating unit;
a digital transmission terminal connected to said AV data source; and
an analog transmission terminal,
wherein ~~when~~ said first controlling unit ~~judges that an OSD is needed~~ determines that a contents request signal is generated, ~~said first controlling unit determines that information requested by the contents request signal is an OSD if the contents request signal is generated, and if so,~~ said first controlling unit checks a size of the OSD, compares a size of the OSD to a preset size, and based upon the comparison, transmits the OSD over one of the digital transmission terminal or the analog transmission terminal to a switching unit.

10. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 9, wherein if the size of the OSD exceeds the preset size, the OSD is transmitted in analog form over the analog transmission terminal.

11. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 10, wherein the digital AV contents are transmitted over the digital transmission terminal at the same time that the OSD is transmitted over the analog transmission terminal.

12. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 9, wherein if the size of the OSD does not exceed the preset size, the OSD is transmitted in digital form over the digital transmission terminal.

13. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 12, wherein the digital AV contents are transmitted over the digital transmission terminal at the same time that the OSD is transmitted over the digital transmission terminal.

14. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 9, further comprising:

a remote control, wherein said first controlling unit judges that an OSD is needed by sensing a user's input on said remote control.

15. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 9, wherein said first controlling unit transmits an indication signal to indicate whether the OSD is being transmitted through the analog transmission terminal or the digital transmission terminal.

16. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 15, wherein the indication signal is transmitted over the digital transmission terminal.

17. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 9, further comprising:

a signal input apparatus, physically separate from said signal output apparatus, said signal input apparatus including:

an MPEG decoder unit for connection to said digital transmission terminal;
the switching unit to select the OSD in either analog form or digital form; and
a second controlling unit for controlling the switching unit.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 2, further comprising:
displaying the digital AV contents and the transmitted OSD in real time.

20. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein the OSD identifies a status of an appliance or is used to change a setting of the appliance.

21. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein in the transmitting step, the digital connection includes an IEEE 1394 interface.

22. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for transmitting digital AV(Audio/Video) contents and an on-screen display (OSD), the apparatus comprising:

an analog connection;

a digital connection; and

~~a controller judging whether a transmission of an OSD is needed or not; determining whether a contents request signal is generated; determining whether information requested by the contents request signal is an OSD if the contents request signal is generated; if so, checking a volume of the OSD; and determining whether the volume of the OSD is larger than a certain volume, and if so transmitting the OSD in analog form to a switching unit through an analog connection, and if the volume of the OSD is not larger than the certain volume, transmitting the OSD in digital form to the switching unit through a digital connection.~~

23. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 22, further comprising:

an AV content source transmitting digital AV contents while the OSD is being transmitted through the analog or digital connection in real time.

24. (Previously Presented) A method for transmitting an on-screen display (OSD), the method comprising:

comparing a volume of an OSD to be transmitted with a certain volume; and
selecting either an analog transmission or a digital transmission of the OSD based on the comparison result.

25. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 24, wherein if the comparison result indicates that the volume of the OSD is smaller than the certain volume, the selecting step selects the digital transmission of the OSD.

26. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 24, wherein if the comparison result indicates that the volume of the OSD is larger than the certain volume, the selecting step selects the analog transmission of the OSD.